Small Satellites for Atmospheric Studies

2832. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government have encouraged ISRO to launch small satellite missions to study the earth's atmosphere;

(b) by when would ISRO take up the new proposal called the Small Satellites for Atmosphere and Space Science for effective monitoring of earth's atmosphere to find solution to global warming and changing weather conditions; and

(c) whether the major focus of this mission would be to delineate the changes that are taking place in the atmosphere in the South Asian region?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The small Satellite for Atmosphere and Space Science is planned to be launched in 3-4 years time. The Satellite is intended primarily to monitor atmosphere aerosols and trace gases like Ozone (O3), Carobon Monoxide (CO) and water vapor, which influence the radiation budget of atmosphere system.

(c) Yes, Sir. The satellite will be able to cover the measurement over the large oceanic region of this part.

National Statistical Commission

2833. SHRIMATI N.P. DUGRA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up the National Statistical Commission;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are thinking of merging the Central Statistical Organization and the National Sample Survey Orgnization; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Statistical Commission will, among others, serve as the nodal body for all core statistical activities; identify the areas of core statistics which are of national importance; evolve national policies and priorities relating to the statistical system; evolve national strategies for the collection, tabulation and dissemination of core statistics apart from evolving standard statistical concept, definitions, classifications and methodologies in different areas of statistics; exercise statistical coordination as well as statistical audit to ensure quality and integrity of statistical products.

(c) The Central Statistical Organisation and the National Sample Survey Organisation will be merged into a single entity called National Statistical Organisations, which will function as the executive wing of the Government.

(d) This is to operationalise National Statistical Commission.

Development Project

†2834. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the development projects launched during and before the Ninth Five Year Plan period which are proposed to be completed during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the projects completed by the end of March 2006 out of the above and the number of projects related to irrigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) This Ministry monitors all central sector projects which are development projects. At the beginning of 10th Plan (as on 1-4-2002), 394 Central Sector Projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above sanctioned during and prior to the 9th Plan were under implementation. Out of 394 projects, 309 projects were due for completion during the 10th Plan, out of which 193 projects have been completed upto 1-3-2006. The balance 116 projects are likely to be completed by 31-03-2007.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.